

Torrance, California  
March 25, 1947

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday, March 25, 1947 at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the meeting to order.

Clerk Bartlett called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. Absent: Councilmen; None.

All those present in the Council Chamber saluted the Flag.

Councilman Tolson moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held March 11, 1947; the minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held March 19, 1947; the minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held March 20, 1947; and the minutes of an Adjourned Regular Meeting held March 21, 1947, be approved as written. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

This being the time and place fixed for the opening of contractors bids for the construction of Municipal Water District No. 1 in WALTERIA, Clerk Bartlett opened, examined and read the following bids:

<u>NAME &amp; ADDRESS</u>	<u>CONTRACT</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1. Alex Robertson Company Clearwater, California	A B	\$25,275.40 7,044.25
2. T.P.Everett Construction Co. 134 W. 112th Street, L.A.	A B	17,010.00 5,878.25
3. J.E.Young Pipe Line, Cont. 8677 Otis St., South Gate	A B	19,350.00 6,272.50
4. Hood Construction Co. 3332 E. Florence, Hntngtn Pk.	A B	40,178.40 12,407.25
5. C-B Construction Co. 4864 Valley Blvd., L.A.	A B	19,220.00 5,790.50
6. Pacific Pipeline & Eng., Ltd. 2268 Firestone Blvd., L.A.	A B	11,950.00 6,465.75
7. ABC Construction Co. 810 N.Lakewood Blvd., Hynes	A B	23,220.00 9,526.25

Councilman Tolson moved that complete reading of Contract B in the above bids be dispensed with and that all bids submitted be referred to Taylor and Taylor, Consulting Engineers for Municipal Water District No. 1 in WALTERIA, for recommendation to the Council. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert informed the audience that the bids would be available to anyone wishing to examine them immediately after the meeting.

Mayor Sherfey announced that the canvass of election returns from the March 18, 1947 Board of Education and Bond Election would take place at this time.

After the Council completed the canvass of the election returns, Clerk Bartlett presented and read in full:

RESOLUTION NO. 1829RESOLUTION DECLARING RESULTS OF  
SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD IN  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE MARCH 18, 1947.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1829 be adopted. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

A communication was read from the Wood Shingle Improvement Company, 330 West Rosecrans Avenue, Compton, requesting a refund for the unused portion of their paint contractor's license issued on February 15, 1947.

After some discussion, City Attorney Otto B. Willett stated that the business license ordinance provides there shall be no refunds made on a license issued for more than thirty days.

Councilman Powell moved that hereafter the Council will reserve the right to reject any application for refund made within the thirty day limit. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the above party, Wood Shingle Improvement Company, be notified that the Council is rejecting their application for refund. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Engineering Offices of Taylor and Taylor, 725 South Spring Street, Los Angeles, with reference to Municipal Water District No. 2 in North Torrance, stating that plans are being made to transfer 414 ft. of 12" cast iron pipe and 1602 ft. of 10" cast iron pipe from Municipal Improvement District No. 1 to Municipal Water District No. 2 at a cost of \$5,445.05 to be drawn out of the bond fund; and recommending that they be authorized to proceed with plans for the installation of cast iron pipe to accommodate a housing project on Grenshaw Boulevard, bids for such to be received sometime in mid-April.

Councilman Tolson moved that Taylor and Taylor be given notice to go ahead with plans as outlined in their communication. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from the Southern California Gas Company, 810 South Flower Street, Los Angeles, enclosing a check for \$4536.15 as the amount due for the twelve month period ending December 31, 1946 in conformity with the terms of the franchise issued them under Ordinance No. 322. Matter of record.

A communication was read from Mr. H. C. Callihan, P.O. Box 254, WALTERIA, requesting the use of the Municipal Park on July 4, 1947, for the purpose of staging the Torrance Fifth Annual Rodeo; and asking permission to decorate the streets in advertisement of the event, and to hold the usual dance in connection therewith in the evening. He stated, also, that they will be willing to pay 10% of the net profit to the City for the use of the park and the concessions.

A communication was read from Mr. Dale Riley, Recreation Department Superintendent, recommending that Mr. Callihan's request be granted, subject to the Council's action on the American Legion contract in regard to the concessions at the Park.

Councilman Powell moved that this request be referred to the Council as a whole, pending the outcome of the proposed agreement between the American Legion and the City. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, P.O. Box 335, requesting permission to sponsor a carnival show in Torrance beginning April 8 and ending April 13, without paying the present license fee.

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Councilman Tolson moved that these requests be granted. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Torrance Hobby Shop, 1219 El Prado, requesting permission to sell "Safe and Sane" Fireworks for the Fourth of July, 1947.

A discussion of the matter followed, in which it was stated that Fire Chief J. E. McMaster concurred in a State law during the War prohibiting the sale of fireworks in the City of Torrance.

Mayor Sherfey moved that the City Clerk be authorized to notify the Hobby Shop that this law, believed to be in effect at this time, will prohibit the sale of any kind of fireworks in their shop. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Otto B. Willett, City Attorney, submitting a copy of a letter received by him from the Southern California Telephone Company regarding hearings on their application for increased rates before the Public Utilities Commission.

Upon inquiry by Mayor Sherfey, Attorney Willett advised the Council that they have the right to protest against this increase, that the City of Los Angeles and the City of San Francisco have already done so.

Councilman Tolson moved that the City Attorney be authorized to draw up a resolution protesting against the proposed increase in rates by the Southern California Telephone Company. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Secretary of the Planning Commission, with regard to Petition for the vacation of Bow Avenue, Case No. 72, of E. L. Voltz and Sam Goldfaden, which was denied by the Commission at a recent meeting. Mr. Jain requested the concurrence of the Council in this action; and the refund of \$85.00 to the Petitioners which is the remainder of the \$100.00 deposit made by them for the investigation.

Councilman Powell moved that the Council concur in the recommendation of the Planning Commission and that the refund of \$85.00 be authorized by the Council. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from J. H. Stroh, Chief of Police, recommending that Mr. Arch Smith be granted permission to operate an ice cream route in Torrance, as per his written request of March 11, 1947.

Councilman Powell moved that the recommendation of the Chief of Police be concurred in. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from J. H. Stroh, Chief of Police, with regard to Petition for Variance, Case No. 57, of Mr. Finch, for permission to operate a public garage and automobile repair shop at his service station on Carson and Manuel Streets, Lot 9, Block 24, Torrance Tract, stating that his trial will be held Friday, March 28, 1947 at 11:00 a.m., and that the City Engineer and the City Attorney are requested to be present, with the City Attorney prosecuting the case.

A communication was read from W. C. Bradford, Secretary of the Civil Service Board, requesting the City Council to authorize the payment of compensation to the members of the Board, at the rate of \$10.00 each for every meeting attended.

Councilman Powell moved that this matter be referred to the Council as a whole for further study and report at the next regular meeting. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert advised the Council that a request of this type was made by the Board not long ago, that the matter was referred to the Council and no decision ever made upon it. He suggested that action be taken as soon as possible.

Councilman Powell suggested that compensation to the Board be made from the budget on a monthly basis and that the Planning Commission also be paid a salary. However, he stated, he would suggest that both matters be placed before the citizens of Torrance to be voted upon.

A communication was read from W. C. Bradford, Secretary of the Civil Service Board, advising that the request of Mr. Joe Hagberg, an employee in the Street Department, for a leave of absence from March 25, 1947 to April 4, 1947, inclusive, without pay, in order to take his family to Portland, Oregon, has been approved by Mr. Ralph Perkins, Street Superintendent, and by the Board.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the Council concur in the action of the Civil Service Board and the Street Superintendent. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from W. C. Bradford, Secretary of the Civil Service Board, with reference to the request of Mrs. Edith B. Smith, Bookkeeper-Cashier, for a transfer from the Municipal Bus Lines Office to the Water Department Office. He stated that the transfer has the approval of the Civil Service Board, Mr. W. H. Murphey, Acting Manager of the Municipal Bus Lines, and Mr. W. H. Stanger, Manager of the Water Department.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Council concur in the recommendations of the Board, the Bus Manager and the Water Manager. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Otto B. Willett, City Attorney, with regard to decreasing Public Liability and Property Damage Insurance on taxicabs operating within the City, stating that the matter should properly be determined by the Council. He advised that an amendment to Section 6 of Ordinance No. 366 would be required if the Council decides to act in the matter.

During the ensuing discussion, the majority of the Council members agreed that the insurance requirements should be reduced.

Councilman Gilbert moved that the City Attorney be instructed to draw up an amendment to Section 6 of Ordinance No. 366, setting up rates in accordance with other cities of similar size. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, City Engineer, with reference to requests from various property owners for the removal of City trees from their property at City expense, varying from \$25.00 to \$100.00 for the removal of each tree; and requesting that the policy be established by the Council to charge the property owner for the expense incurred by removal of a tree, and that no tree be removed except those that are diseased or dangerous or definitely obstructive to proposed construction by the property owner.

After a short discussion, in which Engineer Jain pointed out that tree removal expense has run into thousands of dollars over a period of years, Mayor Sherfey moved that this matter be referred to the Council as a whole and Mr. Jain for further discussion and report at a subsequent meeting. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Otto B. Willett, City Attorney, with reference to the offer of land in the Pueblo District from the American Rock Wool Insulating Company for use as a baseball diamond, stating that he had discussed the matter with officials of the Company, who do not wish to negotiate to lease the land in question to the City. They wish only to grant the use of the land after being relieved of any responsibility in connection with its use. A copy of Mr. Willett's communication was sent to Rev. C. J. Wood, Pastor of the St. Joseph's Church, Pueblo, who originally made the request that the City Recreation Department aid in preparing this land for playground use.

Clerk Bartlett presented and read title to:

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RESOLUTION NO. 1830

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF  
THE CITY OF TORRANCE, REGULATING THE  
FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR WATER  
CONNECTIONS, METER SERVICES, WATER  
RATES, DEPOSITS, DELINQUENCIES AND  
DISCONTINUANCE OF WATER SERVICE.

Councilman Gilbert moved that further reading of Resolution No. 1830 be dispensed with. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried unanimously.

Councilman Gilbert moved that Resolution No. 1830 be adopted. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$146.00, plus tax, be made for the purchase of street repair materials for patch repair on Carson Street, east of Cabrillo Avenue. Councilman Powell seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jackson moved that an appropriation of \$77.00, plus tax, be made for the purchase of street repair materials for patch repair at Carson Street and Arlington Avenue intersection. Councilman Gilbert seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$975.80 be made out of the Bond Fund for the purchase of 70 - 5/8" x 3/4" Meters, Round Reading without Couplings for Municipal Water District No. 2. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor Sherfey moved that an appropriation of \$703.15 be made from the Bond Fund for the purchase of 150 - 3/4" Lead Goosenecks complete and 250 - 3/4" Meter Couplings for house connections in Municipal Water District No. 2. Councilman Tolson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Sherfey inquired of City Attorney Willett whether or not it would be advisable to wait a few weeks before acting upon the Petition requesting lights at the Fern Avenue Park for night ball games, due to the fact that there is still some doubt as to the title of the property.

Attorney Willett stated that the case has been filed in the Superior Court but is still being held up and that he would recommend that the matter be referred to the Council as a whole pending the decision of the Court.

City Attorney Willett informed the Council that he has completed his study of the franchise to be granted the Standard Gas Company except for the insertion of rates to be charged. He will hold the franchise, he asserted, until he can meet with the Council informally for discussion of the matter.

Mayor Sherfey stated that the appointment to the vacancy created by the resignation of John McCall from the Planning Commission will be made at the next regular meeting.

City Engineer Glenn M. Jain stated that he will make a report on the proposed South Torrance Sewer District at next Tuesday's meeting, April 1, 1947, which will be a little less than the required thirty days from the date of the Protest Hearing. He stated that, if the proposed district has to be shrunk more than 10%, proceedings will have to be abandoned for another year, unless a precedent has been established some time in the past. He informed the Council that he is to meet with Mr. Harold Barnett, Engineer for the proposed district, and a legal counsel within the next few days, and that he would like to meet with the Council to discuss the prospects for the proposed district before the meeting on Tuesday. Mayor Sherfey advised Mr. Jain that he may join the Council in an informal meeting to be held Monday, March 31, 1947 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Sherfey called the attention of the assemblage to a trophy, in the form of a gold-framed color-photograph of Torrance's Float which won second place in the A-4 Division of the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade last January 1, 1947. This Float was entered in the Tournament by the Torrance 20-30 Club and the Trophy presented to the City by them.

#### ORAL COMMUNICATIONS


None.

Councilman Tolson moved that all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Jackson seconded the motion which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Gilbert, Jackson, Powell, Tolson and Sherfey. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

At 9:37 p.m., upon motion by Councilman Gilbert, seconded by Councilman Jackson, the meeting adjourned to Tuesday, April 1, 1947, at 7:45 p.m.

  
CITY CLERK OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

APPROVED:

  
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE

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